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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20350

IN REPLY REFER TO
OPNAVINST 4700.29
Op-37

16 MAR 1976

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 4700.29

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: Pre-commissioning habitability inspection of new
construction ships

Ref: (a) U. S. Navy Regulations, 1973, art. 0758
(b) OPNAVINST 4700.8F

Encl: (1) Criteria for habitability inspections prior to
commissioning

1. Purpose. To promulgate guidance and criteria for the
conduct of pre-commissioning habitability inspections required
by references (a) and (b).

2. Supersession. CNO letter Op-431J/at ser 234P43 of 15 May
1972 is hereby superseded.

3. Policy. The pre-commissioning habitability inspection
and the correction or resolution of deficiencies is a pre-
requisite to a new construction ship receiving its crew and
outfit:

a. Accepting authorities shall utilize the guidance con-
tained in enclosure (1) for conducting pre-commissioning
habitability inspections. Upon completion of an inspection,
the complete deficiency list shall be submitted to the
supervising authority (naval shipyard commander or supervisor
of shipbuilding), with copies to the type commander, Naval
Sea Systems Command, and the inspected ship. Further, the
accepting authority, as designated representative of the CNO,
shall critique the inspection with the supervising authority
and the ship.

b. The Chief of Naval Material shall promulgate necessary
definitive guidance to naval shipyards and supervisors of
shipbuilding which will ensure that pre-commissioning habit-
ability inspection deficiencies pertinent to the criteria
contained in enclosure (1) are corrected or resolved.

Distribution:
(see page 2)



W. L. Read
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By direction

OPNAVINST 4700.29
16 MAR 1976

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CRITERIA FOR HABITABILITY INSPECTIONS PRIOR TO COMMISSIONING

Purpose of the Inspection: To ascertain whether or not the spaces within which the crew will live, primarily berthing and messing, are clean, safe, and ready to receive the crew.

Guidance: Readiness of a new or converted ship to receive a Navy crew is measured by the satisfactory completion of shipboard messing, berthing, and sanitary facilities which will allow safe and comfortable shipboard living. The degree of compliance to the latest standards of shipboard habitability regarding sheathing, privacy, color, modern furniture, etc., is not a part of this inspection. Instead, the purpose of this inspection is to assess the overall adequacy and readiness of bunks, lockers, ventilation (heating and cooling), lighting, supply support spaces (storerooms, freeze and chill boxes, scullery, fresh water, etc.) to support a crew. This assessment is to be simply a qualitative judgment by personnel experienced in shipboard living of the ability of the ship to support a crew. It is not to be a detailed review of air conditioning loads, reefer or storeroom capacity, bunk and locker count, lighting intensity, etc., which is a part of acceptance trials by the Board of Inspection and Survey.

Safety deficiencies arising from this inspection which would prevent the crew from living on board safely during the fitting out period should be corrected prior to the crew moving on board. Safety deficiencies in this category are considered to be those for which there is a high probability that, if left uncorrected, they alone will cause serious injury to personnel. A determination of what constitutes a safety deficiency as defined above is not always susceptible to sharp delineation. Many variable factors may enter into the determination in borderline cases. The judgment and experience of the accepting authority are relied upon to make a proper determination in these cases. For example, when inspecting new construction nuclear power ships, due consideration must be given the requirement for the crew to move aboard earlier in the construction phase, i.e., prior to builder's trials. A deficiency, to meet the criteria of a safety deficiency, need not relate directly to habitability. An electrical shock hazard, for instance, regardless of whether it is found in a living compartment, the emergency diesel generator room or elsewhere, should be reported and corrected. The absence of firing cut-out cams in a 5" mount or an inoperative gyrocompass, on the other hand, would not constitute a hazard insofar as a crew living aboard ship safely is concerned.

Enclosure (1)

Deficiencies in ship construction will be addressed only if they prevent the crew from living on board safely and comfortably during the fitting out period. Inspections by the Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV) establish and document construction deficiencies.

Criteria:

Space or System to be Inspected	Inspection Criteria
<u>General:</u> Applies to all spaces or systems listed below, as applicable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- All trash and rubbish removed.- Spaces neat, clean, and in a useable condition.- Wireways and other exposed areas that could serve as a path for rats are free of foreign matter.- Electrical wires or plugs are not located so as to be easily tripped over.- Drains open, with covers attached.- Ventilation (heating and cooling) and lighting adequate to maintain healthful and comfortable conditions.- Electrical outlets required for habitability, installed and operable.- Safety deficiencies (other).
<u>Galleys and Sculleries</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- All equipment required for cooking, baking, dish-washing, and garbage disposal installed and operable. If there is some missing equipment not yet received by the shipbuilder, other equipment capable of providing similar service to the crew should be available and operable.- Safety devices required for any equipment are installed and operable.

Criteria: (continued)

Space or System to be Inspected	Inspection Criteria
<u>Galleys and Sculleries</u> (cont'd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Equipment operating and safety instructions posted.- Grease screens installed.
<u>Berthing Spaces</u> -- Officers, Chief Petty Officers, and Enlisted	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Bunks and lockers neat and in a useable condition.
<u>Messing Spaces</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Furniture installed in prescribed arrangement, and neat, clean, and in a useable condition.
<u>Freeze and Chill Boxes</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Temperature levels adequate to sustain contents in prescribed conditions.
<u>Storerooms for Food</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Racks and bins installed. Space essentially complete, except for minor work, such as paint touch-up and titivation.
<u>Washrooms, Showers, and Waterclosets</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Plumbing fixtures installed, including shower heads, soap dishes, etc.- Prescribed deck covering installed.
<u>Lounges</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Adequate furniture and equipment installed to provide reasonable comfort, relaxation, and entertainment.
<u>Fresh Water</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Assurance that fresh water has been tested and is chemically and biologically pure and supplied in sufficient quantity.